

Mapline

The Catalog of Maps of the NORTH CENTRAL STATES Project

Special Number 2 December 1978

Patricia Moore



In the Spring of 1975 The Newberry Library in cooperation with seven midwestern institutions embarked upon a two-year project to catalog maps of the east north central U.S. printed before 1900. The project was successful, and in April 1977 it was decided to proceed west of the Mississippi River to catalog maps of the Great Plains, thus covering the north central states as a whole, with a total of some 20,000 maps of 12 states and 14 cooperating institutions.

The two 2-year projects are known collectively as the *Catalog of Maps of the North Central States Printed Before 1900*. They were funded by two grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, totaling \$251,930.

Besides cataloging costs, the grants pay for the training of catalogers, travel and lodging to find and catalog maps, as well as for a project supervisor, the rental on an IBM Magnetic Card typewriter with capacity to store cataloging information on magnetic cards, and a project typist.

The cataloging is done on a state-wide basis with a representative from each state cataloging maps of regions, counties, and cities within that state. In addition, regional maps covering three states or more, the Great Lakes, and Missouri, Mississippi and Ohio River Valleys are being cataloged by The Newberry Library. The project is headquartered at The Newberry Library which is responsible for the general administration, cataloging directives, processing, storage, publication and distribution of catalog cards at the completion of the project.

How the Project works

Before the project began, surveys were taken of pre-1900 map collections in each state, the Library of Congress, and other large institutions, to determine the size of the job. A map quota, which took into consideration the date statehood was granted, was then established for each state. A historical society or university in each state in the Midwest was then chosen to provide a cataloger. In most cases, the cataloger was a staff member of the institution. In instances where the institution could not spare a staff member to do the cataloging, an independent cataloger was contracted under the sponsorship of the institution.

Each cataloger spent an intensive two-to-three week training period at the Newberry Library under the instruction of Robert W. Karrow, Jr., Curator of Maps, who developed a manual for the cataloging of antiquarian cartographic materials designed for the project. After the training period, the catalogers were dispatched to their home institutions to catalog maps in their own collections. Each cataloger also spent a minimum of two weeks cataloging maps at the Library of Congress, National Archives and, in some cases, New York City repositories. Public and university libraries, state and county historical societies and agencies as well as private map collections within each state were included in the search.

The catalogers catalog one copy of each map or atlas they find of their respective areas printed before 1900, (1910 in the case of the Dakotas, which obtained statehoods in 1889), indicating the location on the catalog card. The location of other copies are not noted, although the published catalog will be of use to other libraries cataloging their collections and might form the basis of a union catalog at some future date. A cataloging worksheet is filled out by the cataloger, and sent to The Newberry Library where it is checked and typed in proof. The proofs are stored on magnetic cards until final copy is ready to be played out on 3x5" catalog cards. The catalog cards will be sent to the participating institution for use in their local catalogs after the project is over and it has been published.



Publication

The results of the project will be available to interested researchers in a multi-volume set published in 1980 or shortly thereafter. Individual catalog cards will be duplicated in the publication in alphabetical order according to the area depicted by the map and subdivided by the date. Special features will include title and mapmaker indexes in a separate section of the volumes, and state index maps showing official pre-1900 topographic mapping coverage by the U.S. Geological Survey on uniform scales.

Sample entry

<u>CLAY CO., MN - 1897</u>
CRABBE, S F Map of 1897 Clay County, Minn. / drawn and compiled by S. F. Crabbe, C. E. -- Moorhead, Minn. : D. W. Meeker, c1897. Map ; 57x44cm. Scale ca. 1:140,000. Relief shown by hachures.
1. CLAY CO., MN=1897 I. Meeker, D.W. II. T1 MnH17-0361
<u>COLUMBIA PARK, MINNEAPOLIS - 1892</u>
[MINNEAPOLIS. Board of Park Commissioners] Outlines of Columbia Park, Minneapolis. Map : col. ; on sheet 22x27cm. Scale 1:6,000 or "500 ft. to 1 inch." In their Annual report. -- Minneapolis, 1892. -- opp. p. [33].
1. COLUMBIA PARK, MINNEAPOLIS=1892 I. T1 MnH17-0607

What the Project means

The Midwest played an important role in the economic, technological and cultural growth of the country in the 19th century. The many maps produced of this area during this period reflect both the diversity and intensity of activity during this period. In the main, it was the day of the railroad and small farmer, but both large and small businesses of all types were beginning to flourish. Map printing processes had also improved to the extent that mass-produced maps were available to almost anyone that wanted them.

Traditionally, it is difficult to make use of the information appearing on maps, since the maps themselves, appearing in many formats, are little known to the researcher and difficult to retrieve for the librarian. The *Catalog of Maps of the North Central States* hopes to rectify this situation by identifying and locating over 20,000 titles of maps and atlases. Once the results of the project have been published it will be possible to find maps in all libraries that include maps or atlases of the mid-western states. The map records themselves, utilizing a method of cataloging compatible with the Inter-

national Standard Bibliographic Description for Cartographic Material (ISBD-CM), may be used for the cataloging of other copies of each map.

In addition to providing a research tool for finding maps of the Midwest, the project has proved useful in a number of other ways. The cataloging manual by Robert W. Karrow, Jr., Manual for the Cataloguing of Antiquarian Materials, has been tested out by over a dozen catalogers and will be published at the project's completion. Catalogers participating in the project have become regional experts who may be consulted by anyone interested in the early mapping of their states. Hundreds of mapmakers, including cartographers, map printers, engravers, publishers, sellers and surveyors have also been identified for the first time. A masterlist of mapmakers retained at The Newberry Library has made possible a project to compile a directory of 19th-century mapmakers of Chicago by the Chicago Map Society. A number of participating institutions have started compiling atlases of historical maps of their states, or have used income from the project to add to or help conserve their map collections.



(Photo: Peter H. Zimmerman)

Randolph Tibbits, cataloger from Washington University, processing a map of St. Louis. The catalog description includes the measurement of the map.

MICHIGAN

Mr. David Olson, State Archivist
 Michigan History Division, State Archives
 3405 N. Logan Street
 Lansing, MI 48918
 (517) 373-0512

Cataloger: LeRoy Barnett, Archival Assistant

MINNESOTA

Ms. Lila Coff, Assistant to the Director
 for Libraries and Museum Collections
 Minnesota Historical Society
 690 Cedar Street
 St. Paul, MN 55101
 (612) 296-2150

Cataloger: Nancy Erickson, Catalog Librarian
 Audio-Visual Library

MISSOURI

Ms. Holly Hall, Chief
 Rare Books and Special Collections
 Olin Library
 Washington University
 St. Louis, MO 63130
 (314) 889-5495

Cataloger: Randolph Tibbits, American History
 Bibliographer

NEBRASKA

Mrs. Ann Reinert, Librarian
 Nebraska State Historical Society
 1500 R Street
 Lincoln, NB 68508
 (402) 432-2793

Cataloger: Helen Brooks, student
 University of Nebraska

NORTH DAKOTA

Mr. James E. Sperry, Superintendent
 State Historical Society of North Dakota
 Liberty Memorial Building
 Bismarck, ND 58501
 (701) 224-2666

Cataloger: Eileen Dopson, student
 University of North Dakota

OHIO

Mr. Dennis East, Division Chief
 Archives-Manuscripts
 Ohio Historical Society
 1982 Velma Avenue
 Columbus, OH 43211
 (614) 466-1500

Catalogers: Stephen C. Gutgesell, Newspaper Librarian
 James Monteith, Audio-Visual Archivist
 Arlene Peterson, Audio-Visual Archivist
 Ohio Historical Center
 Library Division

SOUTH DAKOTA

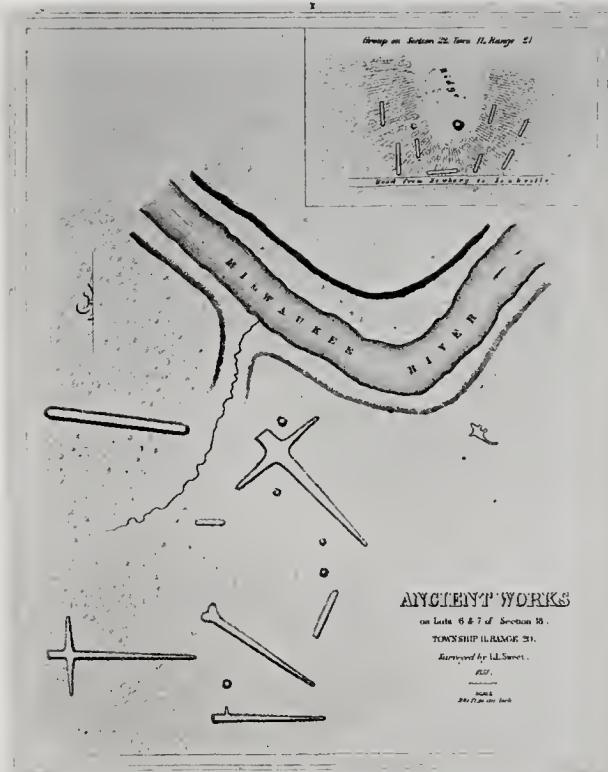
Mr. Dayton W. Canaday, Director
 South Dakota Historical Resource Center
 Memorial Building
 Pierre, SD 57501
 (605) 224-3615

Cataloger: Eileen Dopson, student
 University of North Dakota

WISCONSIN

Mr. Richard A. Erney, Director
 State Historical Society of Wisconsin
 816 State Street
 Madison, WI 53706
 (608) 262-3266

Catalogers: Michael J. Fox, Curator of Maps
 Elizabeth Singer Maule, Curator of Maps
 State Historical Society of Wisconsin Library
 Map Section, Archives Division



Map of Indian mounds. From I.A. Lapham, *The Antiquities of Wisconsin* (Washington, 1855)

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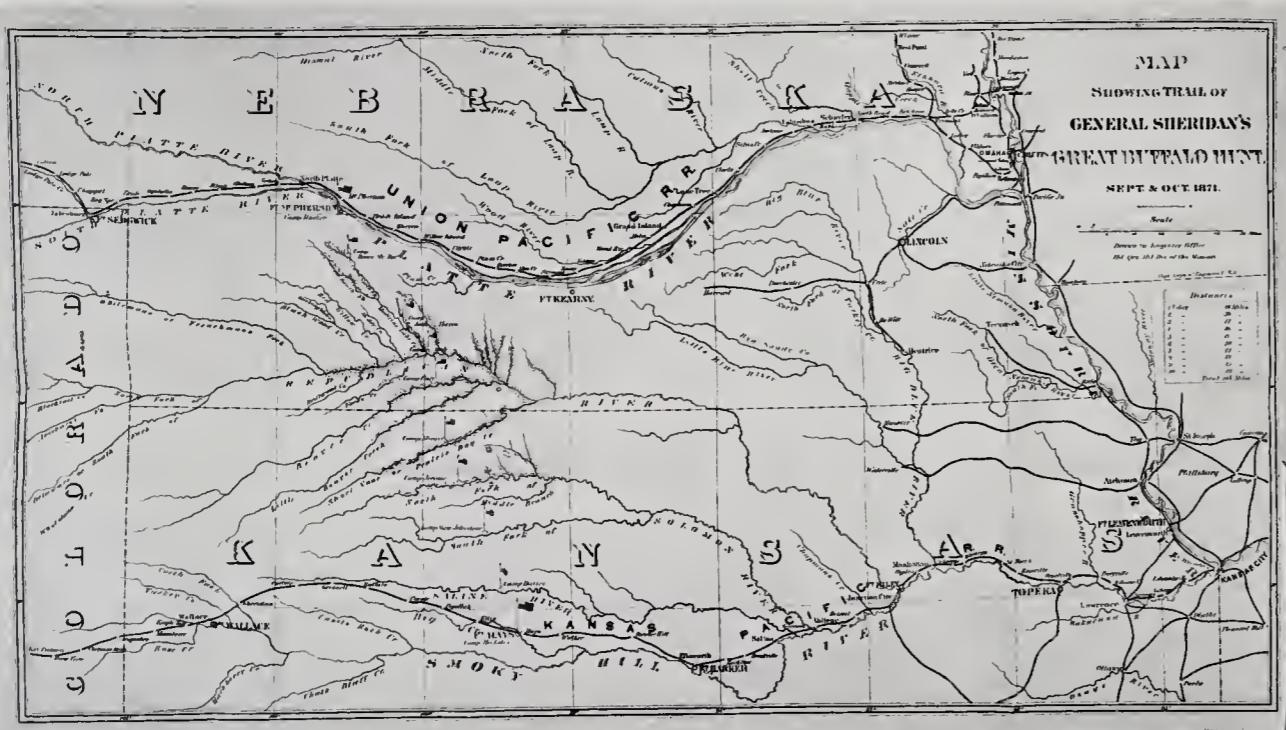


(Photo: Peter H. Zimmerman)

Randolph Tibbits, cataloger from Washington University, processing a map of St. Louis. The catalog description includes the measurement of the map.

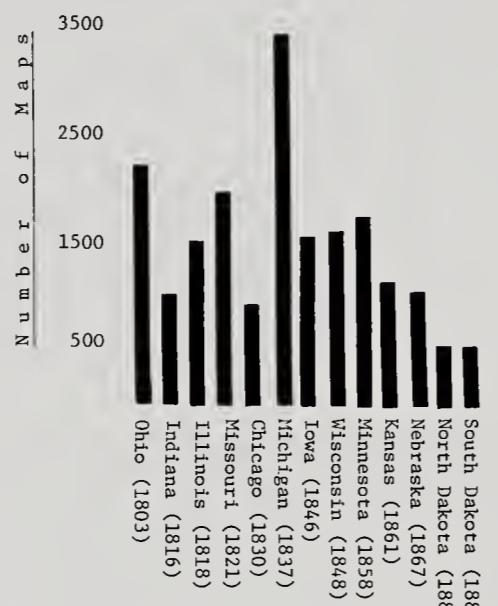
Types of Maps included

- ✓ Maps showing postal routes and services
- ✓ Navigation and wreck charts of the Great Lakes and their harbors
- ✓ Maps showing land grants and the progress of settlement
- ✓ Maps of cemeteries, stockyards and fair grounds
- ✓ Maps showing Civil War activity
- ✓ Fire Insurance Maps and Maps showing the paths of famous fires
- ✓ Maps showing farms and homesteads
- ✓ Maps of forts and explorations
- ✓ Topographic maps
- ✓ Maps showing boundary disputes and changes
- ✓ Maps in books and atlases
- ✓ Maps showing climatic trends, droughts, and floods
- ✓ Maps printed by various processes
- ✓ City maps including bird's-eye-views
- ✓ Maps showing mines and mineral activity
- ✓ Maps of Indian lands and battles
- ✓ Maps showing manufacturing and commercial activity
- ✓ Historic maps
- ✓ River improvement and navigation maps/guides to the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio Rivers
- ✓ Maps showing the spread of disease and pestilence
- ✓ Maps showing lands and landforms formed by glacial activity
- ✓ Specialty maps in books and reports
- ✓ Maps of bicycle routes and recreational areas
- ✓ Inset maps
- ✓ State, county and city atlases



From Henry E. Davies, *Ten days on the Plains* (New York, [1872]). The hunt is indicated by the flags, center left.

Chart of number of maps catalogued



State
Arranged chronologically according to date
statehood was granted.

For further Information

THE NEWBERRY LIBRARY

60 W. Walton Street
Chicago, IL 60610
(312) 943-9090

Project Director

David Woodward, Director
Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History
of Cartography

Project Supervisor and Regional Cataloger

Patricia Moore

Cataloging Instructor

Robert W. Karrow, Jr., Curator of Maps

Project Typist

Jeffrey Auld



West North Central State Catalogers meet for a mid-project meeting, January 1978. Left to right: John Long, Acting Director; Helen Brooks, Ann Hagedorn, Nancy Erickson, Randolph Tibbits, Patricia Moore, Emily Rosenthal, Eileen Dopson, Robert Karrow.

CHICAGO

Mr. Robert L. Brubaker, Chief Librarian
Chicago Historical Society
Clark Street at North Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614
(312) MI2-4600

Cataloger: Marsha L. Selmer, Map Librarian
Univ. of Illinois at Chicago Circle
P.O. Box 8198
Chicago, IL 60680
(312) 996-5277

ILLINOIS

Mr. William K. Alderfer, State Historian
Illinois State Historical Library
Old State Capitol
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-4836

Cataloger: David A. Cobb
Map and Geography Librarian
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL 61801
(217) 333-0827

INDIANA

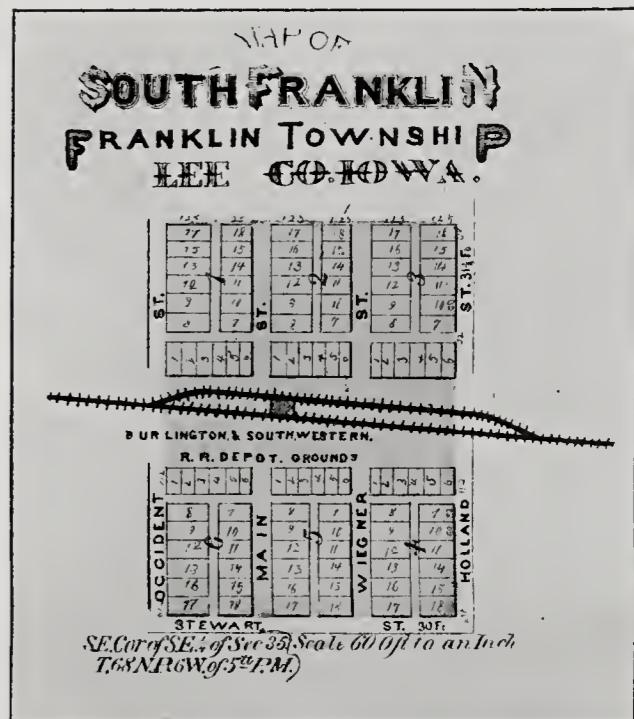
Ms. Gayle Thornbrough, Director
Indiana Historical Society Library
140 N. Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 633-4876

Cataloger: Mr. Tom Rumer, Reference Librarian
William Henry Smith Memorial Library

IOWA

Mr. Peter Harstad, Director
State Historical Society of Iowa
402 Iowa Avenue
Iowa City, IA 52240
(319) 338-5471

Cataloger: Diana Fox, Technical Services Librarian
The Library

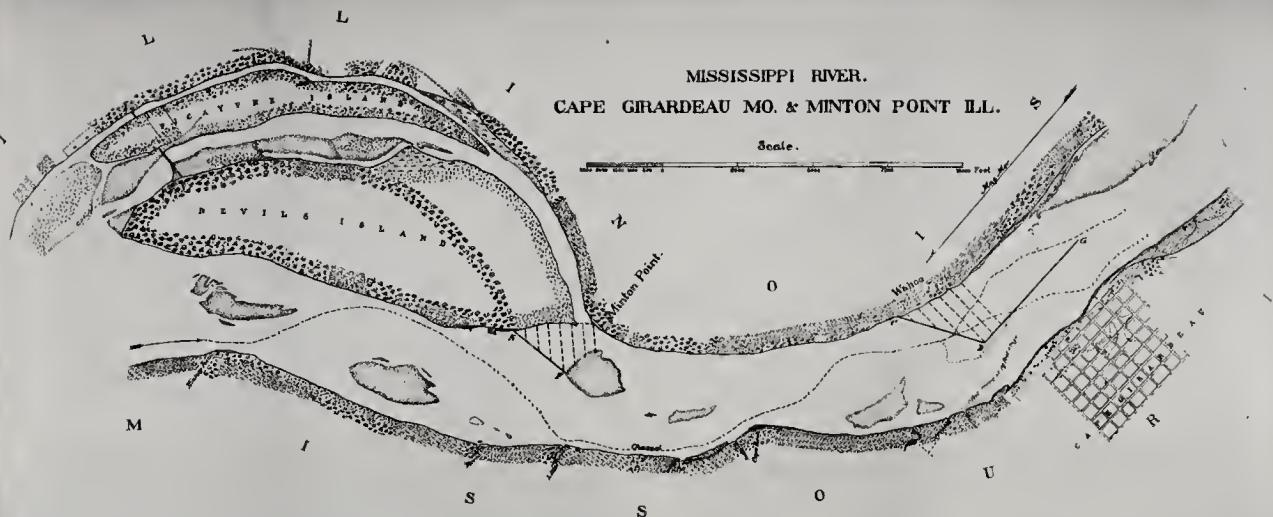


From A.T. Andreas, *An illustrated historical atlas of Lee County, Iowa* (Chicago, 1874)

KANSAS

Ms. Alexandra Mason, Spencer Librarian
Department of Special Collections
Kenneth Spencer Research Library
University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS 66044
(913) 864-4334

Cataloger: Ann Hagedorn, Catalog Librarian
Watson Library



Maps in the Congressional Set

The "Congressional Series," a multi-volume set of reports on the internal affairs of this county, published for the use of Congress starting with the 15th Congress in 1817, has been the source of hundreds of maps cataloged in the project.

The maps were exhibits or appendixes accompanying reports of agencies such as the General Land Bureau of Topographical Engineers, and Missouri River Commission. Maps of public lands; river and harbor improvements; boundary disputes; road, canal and railroad routes, are typical of the Congressional Series and are the most profuse. However, other specialized maps, such as those showing population that accompanies the U.S. Census Office's 10th Census, 1880 (Serial set ; 2129), and Joseph Nicolas Nicollet's map of the *Hydrographical Basin of the Upper Mississippi*, that accompanied his report to the 28th Congress in 1845 (Serial set ; 464), are also included.

Martin P. Claussen and Herman R. Friis' *Descriptive Catalog of Maps Published by Congress 1817-1843* (Washington, D.C., 1941), a guide containing over 500 maps

From U.S. 47th Cong., 1st Sess., 1881-1882, Report
of the Chief of Engineers (Washington, 1882)
(Serial set ; 2012)

in documents published between the 15th and 27th Congresses, was used as a source to locate midwestern maps up to 1843. After 1843, it was necessary to go through the entire Congressional Series volume by volume, to 1900 (approximately 3600 volumes) to excerpt maps of the Midwest, including maps of the great river systems of the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio, their sections and harbors, and navigation charts of the Great Lakes.

Maps in the Congressional Series have never completely been inventoried. They present conservation problems due to their large size, and the paper they were printed on is fast deteriorating. The Catalog of Maps of the North Central States project is demonstrating their value for the researcher, and thus raising their priority for a microfilming or conservation project.



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